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**PROGRESS REPORT by
State extension services**

*on meeting
home food supply
needs through*

**Victory Gardens
Home Food Preservation**

JUNE 15, 1945

UNITED STATES
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DIRECTOR OF EXTENSION WORK
WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 16, 1945

To: The Secretary of Agriculture

From: M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work *M L Wilson*

Subject: Progress Reports by State Extension Services on Meeting
Home Food Supply

The response of our people both urban and rural to the appeals for maximum home food production and preservation has been most remarkable. From 18 to 20 million families have had victory gardens in these years of war. Last year nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ billion quarts of food were canned by families for home use. These millions of victory gardens, it is estimated, produced 40 percent of our fresh vegetable supply. This and the huge amounts of foods canned helped the Nation to meet its greatly increased food requirements in wartime.

We are proud of the part our State and county extension agents played in promoting victory gardens and home-food preservation. In co-operation with many thousand volunteer leaders and with the help of local sponsoring groups, our extension workers assisted victory gardeners and families in preserving food to win success in their efforts. Many most helpful circulars and bulletins on gardening and home-food preservation were issued by the State extension services. Thousands of meetings and demonstrations were held to instruct people and much information was given to the people through the sympathetic and helpful press, reinforcing the helpful service given through bulletins, circulars, and press releases issued by the Department of Agriculture.

The story of this work is partially told in the attached album. Here you will find many examples of the work and material developed in the States. I thought you would like to have a copy of this record. Perhaps you would have some suggestions for the further improvement of the work in these fields. These suggestions we would welcome very much, for undoubtedly the Department and the States will have to carry this program on at least until the war is finally won.

Attachment

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Progress Reports of
State Directors of Cooperative Extension Work
on the Victory Garden and Home Food Preservation Programs
June 15, 1945

Connecticut

Inquiry among our county extension people and others in the State indicate there will probably be fewer gardens in Connecticut this year. As you know, adverse weather conditions, particularly during May when most people begin to plant, have had a dampening influence on enthusiasm.

Our vegetable specialist, A. E. Wilkinson, is encouraging gardeners to emphasize the production of vegetables that can be preserved for winter use through canning, freezing, or storage. Miss Ruth T. Russell, our State home demonstration leader, informs me that two cities, Hartford and New Haven, each have an urban food preservation assistant, and that one will soon be appointed to serve in Bridgeport and Stamford. In some of the rural areas throughout the State there is greater interest on the part of local food preservation leaders.

Delaware

Gardening has been a unified program in which all extension workers have participated. A program that has encouraged weekly conferences of both State and county staffs, that has brought about better cooperation among staff members in order that wartime needs for more food might be met.

Few garden meetings as such have been scheduled compared with other years. However, the need for continued production and conservation has been emphasized at all extension meetings. Home demonstration agents, for instance, discussed the food situation in January when giving outlook material. They urged gardens again in March and offered available garden material. In July winter pantry records are to be distributed and food conservation plans discussed with club members.

County agents will continue to hold meetings since that is one of their most important wartime projects. 750 or 50% are garden members. They will all be visited in July to see the progress of their project. Several 4-H meetings are now being scheduled on insect control and fall gardens.

There are 118 colored garden members. With this group to whom much attention has been given, 88 food meetings have been held on the use of fruits and vegetables. 147 families have been personally helped with their meal planning.

Maine

Indications are at the present time, in spite of a very unfavorable season, we will have more gardens in Maine this year than we had last year. Two of the people responsible for the Victory gardens in the two largest cities state that there is much more interest this year than at any previous time.

The home demonstration agents are to train our 325 odd foods leaders in communities throughout the State and the 25 county leaders, so that they will be able to answer questions in the communities in which they live. If requests come in for meetings which they are unable to hold, the home demonstration agent will hold them. The training classes for these leaders are to include a pressure cooker demonstration, a boiling water bath demonstration, a demonstration of jars, rubbers and closures, a discussion of canning questions and the assembling of a kit for use by each leader from material brought by the home demonstration agent. Demonstrations may be followed up by canning bees where members can bring produce, prepare it and can it according to correct methods under the supervision of the club agent, home demonstration agent, or the war food assistant.

The State canning centers are again under the supervision of Miss Florence Jenkins of the State Department of Education. There will be between 20 to 30 of these. Communities having them must guarantee a school lunch program.

Maryland

Early season reports indicated that with favorable weather conditions the amount of food produced in home gardens would exceed that of past years. While a substantial increase in number of gardens was not apparent, a considerable percentage of those who had been reasonably successful in their gardening efforts in past years were planting larger gardens, and with their added experience were caring for them better. Consequently "larger and better gardens" was the report.

As the critical situation became more apparent, prompt action was taken to stimulate the greatest possible production and preservation. Without waiting even for the regional conference, representatives of all interested agencies were called together by the Director of Extension to map a campaign for increased food production. These included in addition to the Extension Service, the State Victory Garden Committee, Health and Medical Committee, Council of Defense, War Food Administration, State Nutrition Committee, State Department of Education and Public Schools of Baltimore, Board of Public Welfare, State Grange, Farm Bureau, and a number of consumers' and civic organizations.

After a survey of the situation, it was decided that first emphasis would be placed upon impressing people generally with the seriousness of the need for producing and conserving food in every way possible. The first step would be to use every means possible to encourage additional planting of home gardens and the need for keeping

garden space working at full capacity throughout the entire season. Every organization and agency agreed to use its facilities and personnel in achieving that end.

As a result, agricultural and home demonstration agents in all counties have kept the public press supplied with information and in that way have reached a large percentage of the people in the respective counties. In addition, they have sent out a great many pieces of promotional and educational material in other ways, and have attended a great many meetings of groups of various types. A very large percentage of the people in the counties of Maryland have been contacted in one way or another by extension agents and neighborhood leaders for the purpose of informing them of the food needs, and providing assistance in meeting their family needs.

Specialists of the Extension Service have given particular attention to assistance in the urban areas. In Baltimore City the home garden enterprise was equal to or greater this year than in any previous year prior to placing emphasis upon it. While it did not appear that community gardens would be expanded to a substantial extent, a number of industrialists took particular interest in devising ways and means for encouraging greater production and especially preservation of food products by their employees. As the season for preserving food in various ways reaches its height, emphasis is being placed on that phase of the increased home food program. Arrangements have been made for operating canning centers to assist those who may need such assistance in their canning and preserving efforts. In most cases, the extension home demonstration agent gives supervision and other assistance at canning centers in her county. Plans provide for continually emphasizing the necessity for keeping gardens working to full capacity until frost, and for saving every ounce of food possible.

Massachusetts

Early in the year Governor Maurice J. Tobin appointed an enlarged State war garden committee to keep rolling the home garden and food preservation programs of 1943 and 1944. The Extension Service was given full responsibility for the educational information on home gardens and food preservation. Eight part-time workers, in addition to several regular staff members, are scheduled for field work in the counties. These workers give demonstrations on gardens and home canning, give radio talks, and do other special work as arranged by the county extension services of the State office.

Five refresher conferences for non-college economists, utility workers, radio and newspaper workers have been held by the department of food technology here at the College so that information presented will be uniform throughout the State.

Worcester County has a temporary employee who devotes full time to promoting community gardens in the various cities and among industrial firms.

Massachusetts (Continued)

General meetings on home gardens have been organized by county extension workers. These are well under way and before the season is over we expect to hold more than 2,000 such meetings. A still larger number will be held on home canning. At these meetings the speaker discusses with local people garden problems and passes out bulletins and other information. Many of these meetings are arranged by the local chairman of the garden committee in the town.

These early activities on the part of the extension service have been bolstered along by letters and releases of one sort and another. Monthly bulletins go out from the State office to a list of 400 professional workers, many of whom attended the refresher conferences mentioned above. Bi-monthly letters are prepared at the State College office and are sent through the county extension offices to a list of homemakers. There are about 4,000 on this mailing list. A special letter to all Kiwanis presidents went from the State office urging participation in the home garden program and giving a list of bulletins available for distribution.

Three letters have gone to the managers of industrial firms, offering the services of the College for any work which the management might feel desirable and also to keep these managers informed of developments in garden and food preservation problems. There are about 5,000 on this list.

Every school lunch project in Massachusetts has been visited by home demonstration agents with the idea of promoting canning as a means of supplying food for the school lunch project.

Industrial gardens have increased this year over last year, probably due to the fact that a special division of the Governor's committee has been working on this angle. At the last report more than 300 industries had gardens under way.

New Hampshire

The Brown Paper Company at Berlin and the Nashua Manufacturing Company at Nashua are making an all-out attempt at producing more food this year because they feel that their employees do a better job if they are well fed. In 1944 Nashua had 50 acres for its workers, and Berlin 30. That acreage will be increased this year. In addition to supplying land, the Berlin factory supplies fertilizer, plants, and supervising personnel, working in co-operation with the Extension Service. The home garden specialist early in the year visited the mayors of the larger towns of the State, asking for their continued interest and support in the 1945 garden program.

Following the New York meeting, Mrs. Hepler again visited the cities, with Walter Felker, chairman of New Hampshire's home food production committee. Both Mr. Hepler and Mr. Felker believe that the farmers of the State will plant their gardens as before, but the city folk need special encouragement.

New Hampshire (Continued)

Municipal canning factories will be continued this year, and the factory at Dover has been much enlarged. The nutrition specialist, and the war food emergency assistants working in the cities are co-operating with the county home demonstration agents to keep women interested in canning, freezing, and storing as much food as possible. Canning clinics, frozen food demonstrations, and pressure cooker gauge testing will be carried on as usual.

New Jersey

We had a Victory Garden for at least every two and one-half families in the State. Responses to a questionnaire sent out to local Victory Garden chairmen early in May indicate that New Jersey will equal, if not surpass, its 1943 record. Right now we are trying to acquaint the public with the need for and possibility of late planted Victory Gardens.

A trip through a section of the thickly populated area of Essex County yesterday indicated that reports from this region showing a large number of Victory Gardens this year were well-founded. During the four years I have not seen as many backyards and vacant lots planted as I saw on this trip.

I am planning to make several more trips through the State to check on reports and I feel confident that I shall find the same situation as I found yesterday so that when the season is done it can be said that New Jersey has done her part.

New York

The weather has been bad, thoroughly bad for gardening. Frosts as late as June 6 have wiped out the tender crops in some sections. Seeds of sweet corn, beans and carrots are reported rotting in the soil. The few crops above the ground are standing still because of cold weather. Indicative reports from several county Victory garden chairmen follow: Schoharie County Victory Garden Council set a goal of 5,000 better gardens. Wet weather and late spring which included a snow storm on May 10 has reduced the number of gardens that will be planted. Tompkins... A check gives an estimated total of 4450 now under way. An estimated 50 acres of victory gardens are in the city of Ithaca and its suburbs. Genesee... The interest this year is at an all time high *** The size and quality of the gardens have also increased. Despite the inclement weather, the gardens have been planted and all are doing well. Warren... There are very few homes which have garden space but have some sort of a garden. Oneida.... Although many gardens are late, I believe there are as many gardens, if not more, than usual. Many greenhouses seem to be sold out of early plants, still the demand continues. Montgomery... The increasing pressure of the food shortage is causing more interest than ever in Victory gardening. Enrollments in 4-H Garden projects are 40% above last year's. Increased interest shown by our 4-H clubs in training schools in food preservation. Nassau.... From reports of the 58 Victory Garden chairmen, numbers of gardens have not increased. However, there has been increase in the size of these various gardens and the gardeners are

New York (Continued)

growing more of the things they like. Seed dealers roughly estimate gardeners have purchased 10% more seed and fertilizer than in 1944. Greater New York City...Approximate number of school gardens 328; backyard gardens, 348,000; allotment gardens, 100,000; industrial plots, 1,000; total, 449,328, an increase over last year. Dutchess.. Total number of gardens, 18,634

A Food Preservation committee was appointed in February by the Dean of the College of Home Economics. This committee consists of two extension specialists in the Department of Food and Nutrition, an assistant State leader of home demonstration work, and the State home demonstration agent directing the emergency nutrition program for the State Emergency Food Commission. In April the College presented a three-day Food Preservation Training School for Extension Service and Emergency Food Commission workers; 42 agents attended. Lectures, demonstrations, supervised laboratory experience, and program promotion were featured. One day was entirely devoted to freezing techniques for there is noticeable interest in this process due to the development of numerous new locker plants throughout the State. Often the county extension agents and the emergency agents are the only persons who know the best methods of freezing.

Since the training school agents have cooperated with many existing organizations and have developed well-coordinated county and city plans. In all counties the county home demonstration agent is coordinator for the entire nutrition program.

Canning Caravans

In many areas the American Red Cross or other organizations are cooperating by furnishing mobile units which will tour both cities and rural areas. These units vary from the rear trunk of the county extension agent's car to the well-equipped mobile canteen. In these, workers will demonstrate good practices in food preservation; answer questions and distribute literature; test pressure cooker gauges; discuss care and use of equipment; assist in the making of a canning budget. Canning Caravans are popular for they bring the information right to the people. In cities public safety commissioners provide adequate parking facilities in the shopping and industrial areas. Frequently men see the Canning Caravan, bring their wives, and together with the attendant plan a family food preservation program.

Leaders and Consultants

In nearly all counties and cities the interest in food preservation is so great that extension and emergency personnel cannot meet all demands. Training schools have been given by agents or extension specialists for neighborhood leaders. Training includes in addition to reliable food preservation methods the techniques of being a good consultant. Such training is essentially sound for once a leader learns a skill and how to teach that skill, she becomes a permanent asset to her community.

Pennsylvania

Food production information was carried to 37,337 people who attended 880 meetings in the State. These meetings were addressed by emergency war food assistants, county agents and specialists.

Eighteen hundred (1800) meetings on food preservation were held from April to June attended by 34,763 people.

Cooperation has been very close with the Victory Garden Committee of the State Council of Defense, the Parent Teachers' Associations, the Grange, County Nutrition Councils, Women's Clubs, Farm Women's Societies, and the public and private schools of the State.

Rhode Island

The status of the Victory Garden production program in Rhode Island as of June 15, 1945 may be summarized as follows:

1. Number of gardens: Gardens will be larger on the average this year than they were last year.
2. Size of gardens: Gardens will be larger on the average this year than they were last year.
3. Present condition of gardens: Cold, wet weather all season except for a considerably warm period in March has resulted in very poor stands and poor growth of such crops as beans, peas, corn, squash, melons, peppers, eggplants, and tomatoes. Warm weather during the past few days has resulted in marked improvement in appearance of gardens.
4. Future outlook: Continued high ration point values of canned vegetables and news of probable vegetable scarcity has stimulated garden interest. Increased sale of plants and seed during the past few weeks indicates accelerated interest as the season advances. There have not been enough tomato plants available to supply the demand.

The Rhode Island State College Agricultural Extension Service has prompted the 1945 Victory Garden program with all the facilities at its disposal. It has provided subject-matter material for use by all State agencies and interested groups of citizens. Close cooperation in the preparation of subject-matter material has been achieved with the State Department of Agriculture, the Rhode Island Council of War Agencies, and of plant pathologist, agricultural chemist, and others of the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station.

The food preservation program for Rhode Island has been publicized through many channels. This has influenced many people to can for their families, not only to have food but as part of the war effort. In 1944, 1,889 canned an average of 130 cans of food per family. Thirty Canning Centers located in 24 towns and three cities helped approximately 3,000 homemakers to can 52,000 cans of food in 1944. To date, June 15, 1945 26 canning centers have been organized to function throughout the State. They will be ready to open July 16, 1945 for the remainder of the season.

Vermont

Our State program was organized largely during the month of March. The State committee includes, from the Extension Service, the editor, horticulturist, nutritionist, and home demonstration leader. Others on the committee are representatives from the War Food Administration, Vocational Department, Farm Security, State Department of Agriculture.

The county extension agents have been responsible for organizing the county program. The counties have community organizations. Many organized since the early days of the Victory Garden program. These community organizations have in larger centers established community victory plots and assisted with educational work in gardening and food preservation. The service clubs have in many cases cooperated in establishing and carrying out the community programs.

In the counties where there are industries the county extension agent in charge of the Victory Garden program has contacted management and labor to sell the importance of gardening, aid in setting up the organization of a gardening program and in giving educational material. The industries are furnished with Victory Garden and food preservation bulletins as they become available.

Plans are under way for operating the Community Canning Centers in Vermont. W. Howard Martin, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education, says that local organizations are making plans to help with any expense of operating these centers which the money recently granted by the War Food Administration does not cover.

Each county is organized with food preservation captains. These captains are local women selected by the home demonstration agent and neighbors to distribute canning information. The captains are selected on the basis of their experience in canning. The home demonstration agent keeps them supplied with food preservation bulletins.

Our Extension nutritionist has contacted the State officers of the CIO offering meetings and information on food preservation as part of local educational services.

The 4-H Club agents are holding food preservation meetings and inviting 4-H parents to these meetings.

West Virginia

The 1945 Victory Garden Program got under way on January 19 when the State Victory Garden Council held a meeting in Charleston of all interested persons. Twenty-three persons representing 12 organizations attended. A state-wide program was developed. The program called for 200,000 gardens, including 15,000 new gardens and an educational program to achieve better gardening through better site selection, soil preparation and fertilization, seed and plant variety selection, and weed and pest control. In order to carry out this program the group suggested that the State goal be broken down into county goals and that County Victory Garden Councils be formed to organize and develop the county program.

West Virginia (Continued)

County Councils were formed in approximately 50 of the 55 counties during February. Timely information and suggestions for organization of county programs were sent to the county chairmen from the State extension office. County extension workers took an active part in the formation of each county council. State extension workers attended many of the county organization meetings. Every county accepted the goal established by the State Victory Garden Committee and developed a program for achieving the goal. A few counties conducted Victory Garden enrollment campaigns.

In addition to working with the County Councils, State Extension workers conducted schools on gardening for county extension workers and Farm Security workers. They have also helped industrial groups develop Victory Garden programs for their employees and to establish community garden plots. They have contacted all greenhouse men by letter and have furnished all plant growers a chart of recommended varieties and an educational chart on the handling of transplants.

Our gardens in West Virginia are developing slowly. Because of an open March, an early start was made by many of our gardeners. Enthusiasm was at a high level. County Council reports indicated that our State goal of 200,000 would be exceeded. However, the unfavorable weather of April and May discouraged many of the gardeners and resulted in some of the early-plowed gardens growing up in weeds. Our main canning crops, such as corn, beans, and tomatoes, have been greatly delayed. Much planting of these crops still remained to be done on June 15. Due to May and June frosts, a shortage of tomato plants has developed in most parts of the State and will be a limiting factor in the production of this crop. Insects especially aphids, have been much worse than usual on tomatoes and beans. Local shortages of nicotine sulfate are beginning to show up. Over half of the potatoes in West Virginia have been frosted at least once. Many plants have been frosted two or three times. In spite of this fact, the cool wet growing season has been most favorable for cabbage, lettuce, peas, and other cool season crops including potatoes. Prospects are for a large early potato crop in all areas not subjected to the June 6 frost.

Alabama

With a state goal of 400,000 gardens - 200,000 Victory Gardens in cities and towns and 200,000 farm gardens - the Alabama Extension Service early in the year placed major emphasis on this program.

Reports to date show that practically every farm family in the state has a good garden and that they will have enough vegetables and fruit for their use. The indications are that 50 per cent of the urban families have made an effort toward growing a garden this year. The acreage planted in vegetables and fruits for sale is much greater than it has been before.

With a continued intensive food preservation program in 1945, Alabama expects to exceed 1944 results when 41,969 families and 26,209 club girls canned 19,020,978 quarts of fruit, vegetables, meats, jelly, and preserves valued at \$6,495,274. The entire food preservation program includes canned products, products stored in freezer lockers, dried fruits and vegetables and meats cured. This program was valued at \$11,812,045 in 1944. The Victory Garden and home food preservation program has been planned and carried forward in this State by both white and Negro Extension workers.

Arkansas

The 1945 Victory Garden program in Arkansas is considerably behind the program of other years. Almost continuous rains with cold weather throughout the planting periods of late February, March and early April, along with floods in the river valleys, prevented the planting of many gardens until late in the season. As of June 15, Victory Gardens both rural and urban may be considered about 60 per cent of normal. Weather conditions during the next four weeks will largely determine the yields of the cool season vegetables and the vegetables that normally mature in early summer. With adequate rains during this period, a recovery of 70 per cent of normal might be possible.

The final result of the Arkansas 1945 Victory Garden program will be greatly influenced by weather conditions through the summer and fall. A summer drouth will stop production of most garden vegetables. Lack of rain in late July, August and early September would seriously handicap fall production. But with favorable weather from now until killing frosts, production could be brought close to 100 per cent of normal. This, of course, would require much greater production in the fall than normal. Efforts of the Extension Service are being directed toward this end.

Georgia

More interest has been shown in victory garden work this year than in 1944. The increase in the number of gardens will be largely

Georgia (Cont'd)

in the towns and cities. Gardens, as a whole, have received better attention this year than in previous seasons.

A very discouraging factor at the present time is the extremely dry weather which is cutting the yield of most of our garden crops. For this reason we are preparing to make a special effort to keep up the interest in gardening and will have an intensive campaign this fall. Last year the fall gardens received more favorable weather than the spring gardens and produced a great part of our vegetable supply.

During 1944, the last year for which records are available, more than 300,000 gardens were produced by Georgia farm families and city victory gardeners. Four-H club members grew 54,969 gardens. These Georgia gardeners produced food valued at \$35,000,000.

Kentucky

For farm gardens, the report is that they are now as normal as weather has permitted, and there is assurance that by the end of the summer the results will be better than normal, as morale is high.

Of city Victory gardens, Louisville estimates that there are 15,000, or about the number of 1943, but 3,000 more than last year. Covington estimates 6,000 as against 4,500 last year, and 5,500 in 1943. Ashland reports 1,500, as against 1,200 last year and 1,600 in 1943. Sohio industrial gardens, Covington, 600 of them, are all taken and Armco at Ashland, 490 gardens, reports all space taken. The interest in city Victory gardens is higher than in 1944, thanks partly to the 10-point rise in canned tomatoes.

According to seedsmen sales began in March to stop suddenly when winter came again. By May 1, it appeared that if garden numbers were to be judged by seed sales, there were almost 30% fewer than in 1944. But a spurt has set in, and the local seedspeople report the discrepancy is less than 10% and rapidly closing. This year, gardeners are buying seed with better judgment than in previous years when they were inexperienced as to what their garden space could accommodate.

Garden interest in Kentucky is quite as high as in 1943, the "good" year, waiting only on a favorable turn of the weather.

Until the past few weeks, gardens have produced little for canning because of the late season.

Louisiana

Louisiana has more Victory gardens than at any time, with the possible exception of 1943. Sales of vegetable seed indicate the planting this year will equal if not surpass that of 1943. This is true even though we have had a most unfavorable season, excessive rains, hail storm, and a flood that inundated one and one half million acres.

The negro families have made a real contribution to the family food supply. They have been working under the guidance of trained negro extension personnel, who have had the full support of the state extension staff.

Mississippi

Mississippi gardeners again have witnessed a long, wet spring planting season in 1945 with but little gardening done before April. Thousands of gardens were 3 to 6 weeks late in starting. However, the majority of these late gardens have snapped out of a sluggish beginning and are now giving excellent results, even though as a whole the gardens are a little later than in a normal year.

The quality of the vegetables is excellent and gardeners are using succession planting to a larger degree than in other years.

Evidence of this high quality of vegetables has been clearly shown by observing the vegetables brought in to curb markets, to county-wide vegetable shows and in talking with garden leaders and agents.

Mississippi has a goal of 450,000 better gardens for 1945, and with the spring program well under way at this time, it is estimated that when the final count for the year is made, this goal should be reached.

It is believed that the 1945 garden program on a state-wide basis at this shows improvement over the 1944 program.

North Carolina

In the opinion of the Extension Horticulturists there are about the same number of gardens this year as there were in 1944. Because of the excellent growing season this spring the gardens are almost twice as productive this season as they were last year at this time. It is expected that the excellent success this spring will stimulate many gardeners to continue through the summer. Last year the hot, dry spring caused many gardeners to discontinue their gardens after the middle of June.

Oklahoma

Present indications point to continued gardening interest but a less number of gardens this year as compared to last. This is due largely to a very backward spring planting season, as seed dealers report increased seed sales as compared to last year. This would indicate that many people purchased seed which they were unable to plant. Reports as of May 23 indicate 293,000 gardens in Oklahoma this year as compared with 318,000 last year and 324,000 in 1943.

South Carolina

The goal for the South Carolina Victory Garden Program in 1945 is 141,000 farm gardens and 275,000 city and town gardens.

Our Victory Garden and food program for 1946 is well on its way, and is already beginning to "bear fruit." South Carolina has more good gardens than at any other time in its history. Although we have had some cool unseasonable weather, the season for the growing of a large number of vegetable crops has been ideal.

Tennessee

Regardless of the needs for 1945, which were by no means clear in early winter, the lack of success in many gardens in 1944 reduced public interest very greatly. Not only was the 1944 summer drouth a strong deterrent of 1945 gardening, but many beginners had planted in places unfavorable in any kind of season.

In December 1944 and January 1945 it seemed to leaders impossible to instill new life into the Victory Garden program. There was a "wait and see" attitude for which no cure was in sight.

Toward the end of winter the favorable progress of the European war tended to continue the easy-going "wait and see" attitude through a period when, on account of an apparently early spring, enthusiasm for new gardens would normally have increased. Later, unfavorable weather in April and May, together with the actual end of the European war, served to delay or cancel much garden planting actually planned for. Seed dealers showed us warehouses full of unbought seed, this reflecting lack not only of amateur garden interest but of commercial interest also. Dealers in some cases stated that retail seed purchases were 20% or more below those of 1944.

Continued rains in May and early June have further discouraged garden planting and have made many garden tracts actually unfit for planting before July. In recent weeks we have confined our promotional activities to newspaper and radio stories urging planting of tomatoes, field peas, corn and other late crops when and if rains should cease.

Puerto Rico

Results of this marvelous work so far are too premature, but as far as information is being received from the field, there has been a decided increase of activity over 1944.

Through the efforts of 23 Food Preservation Assistants located in those municipalities where there is a greatest demand for saving surplus fruits and great vegetable production. A total of 34,631 cans, 5,594 jars, 1,560 pounds of pastes and preserves, and 2,000 pounds of lard were rendered, besides thousands of pounds of starchy vegetables dried and used as flour for cereals, purees and desserts, has been the amount of containers and products conserved directly not counting that which has been accomplished by those persons they have trained.

Florida

93,085 home gardens were reported grown this year in 31 counties. This number will be increased by at least two-thirds when all reports are in, making a conservative estimate of 155,000 gardens already grown this year.

The counties report an increase in the number of gardens over last year varying from 2 to 25 percent. The average increase per county stands at 19 percent. Only 9 of the 31 counties report a decrease and the decreases vary from 10 to 35 percent. Only 9 of the 31 counties report a decrease and the decreases vary from 10 to 35 percent.

Reasons given for increases are a sincere wish to cooperate in a war food production program, rationing of food, interest in promoting good nutrition, influence of specific information given through campaign to both urban and rural people, increased co-operation of other agencies. When counties report a decreased number of gardens, the reasons seem to be unanimous, namely, the extremely dry weather and extended drought all over the state and the shortage of labor on the farm. Several counties mentioned "too free money" which seems to mean that increased cash incomes have not encouraged the thrifty practice of gardening and canning. In some South Florida counties the bountiful crops grown commercially was named as the reason why more home gardens were not grown.

Planned programs for canning to meet family food needs have grown greatly this year, replacing the somewhat frenzied canning of

Tennessee (Cont'd)

An indirect effect of the delay in garden planting during April and May has been the deterioration of vegetable plants offered by dealers. Frost proof cabbage plants remained on sale when they were not much above the garbage level. Tomato plants, already crowded in seed beds, became abnormally tall and spindly, yet dealers kept them for sale. In recent weeks we have advocated direct seeding of tomatoes rather than plant purchase.

Texas

In 1944, Texas exceeded its 1,000,000 victory garden goal by over 14%. This represented about 40% of the total vegetables grown in the state. The 60% was grown by commercial gardeners. Victory gardeners produced enough food to load 28,000 train cars with 15 tons of vegetables per car.

This year weather conditions in most sections of the state have been very unfavorable for gardening. In most areas early spring rains were unusually heavy. Later on, the weather was extremely dry. On the whole, gardens do not look as promising as they did at this time last year. It is believed, however, that the number of victory gardens in Texas in 1945 is in excess of 1944 by 10 to 15%. Indications are that, with more experienced gardeners and greater effort on the part of Extension workers, as well as cooperating groups and agencies, more of the sound gardening practices are being carried out this season than last year.

It is too early in the preservation season to give an accurate estimate of the amount of food that will be preserved in 1945.

Because of the high point value and scarcity of many canned foods, Texas families are more eager to conserve food at home than they were in 1944. Many families canned large amounts in 1943 which were not consumed in 1944, therefore, the stocks of home canned food are lower than they were at this season in 1944.

Virginia

It is the opinion of this specialist that the Victory Garden Program in cities, towns and counties is being treated more seriously than at anytime during the period of the war. Great losses were sustained in many communities as a result of late freezes and other unfavorable weather conditions. In spite of this, there seems to be serious attitude on the part of the home gardeners which will probably go far toward overcoming these losses. The many gardens visited by this specialist during the last two months have been in exceptionally good condition when the weather is considered.

Florida (cont'd)

last season. Improvement in quality of canned products is noticeable, showing the results of previous training and greater experience of the canners.

Of the total amount of canning done approximately 30 percent was done by urban or non-farm people. Negro families canned about 13 percent of the total amount canned.

Reports of 20 counties show 80,787 quarts were filled for use in local school lunch rooms.

Illinois

The extension program in Victory garden has been very closely coordinated with programs of the State War Council, and the Office of Civilian Defense. University Extension workers have served on the State committees and in this way duplication of effort has been avoided.

The extension service supplied the subject matter material for the entire State program, which in addition to the regular extension publications totaled

150,000 Garden Guides

75,000 Preserving Fruits and Vegetables

10,000 Miscellaneous publications

The distribution of this material, and the activities of the extension workers was facilitated by the appointment of 522 Victory garden chairmen. These chairmen were scattered throughout the State, and the Illinois program was organized on the basis of local chairmen or leaders.

A total of 897 meetings with an attendance of 23,605 have been reported for the past five months in food production and preservation. This report does not include any of the June activities since county reports have not been received in the State Economics Extension office. In May and June food preservation activities reach their peak in Illinois.

Indiana

The garden program in Indiana for 1945 is even ahead of the past three years. A careful estimate, based on observation and seed sales show there are four to five per cent more gardens than in 1944, bringing the total up over the 800,000 mark. These gardens are better planned and better cared for than in previous years due to the several years of State and county garden campaigns and the education of new gardeners.

The food preservation program by home economics specialists has been directed to assist county extension agents and women emergency war food assistants to give information to the home canners throughout the State. Two refresher schools, one for the twenty emergency war food assistants and for home demonstration agents were held with seventy workers present.

Other activities of State home economics extension workers were as follows:

Demonstration on canning to home economics teachers (in charge of community canning centers) and to senior home economics students. Attendance 35.

Talk on meat canning with Farm Security Supervisors at their State Conference.

Two State leader training meetings on freezing fruits and vegetables.

Sixty-two leaders attended representing 700 local club members.

Public demonstration on freezing fruit and vegetables at women's camp.

Attendance 150.

continued

Indiana contd.

Talk to 4-H Junior Leaders on causes of canned food spoilage.

Attendance 50.

Personal conferences with home agents on giving demonstrations on freezing fruits and vegetables and meats, and conducting food spoilage clinics.

It is estimated that out in the counties 85 demonstrations and talks were given by local leaders with an attendance of 2,595 and 105 demonstrations given by home demonstration agents with an attendance of 2,645 people.

Iowa

Our 1945 Victory garden campaign was initiated last fall. We launched a vigorous fall plowing campaign. Approximately 200,000 copies of a fall plowing folder were issued and distributed in our cities through the cooperation of the utility companies. The season favored plowing of gardens late into the year and more gardens were fall plowed than at any time in the past. This prevented a serious bottleneck in getting the remainder of the gardens plowed this spring. More gardens were planted earlier this spring because more plots had been fall plowed. Our gardens in general appear better now than they did last year on the same date. This is true in spite of slight injury to some vegetables caused by a late freeze May 9. Fruits were injured considerably by the freeze. All but 30 percent of the apple and plum blossoms were destroyed. The total fruit crop will be very light in Iowa.

The Iowa Poll taken this spring indicated that there will be 7 per cent more home gardens in 1945 than last year. On this basis we can expect well over 500,000 gardens or about one garden for every 5 persons.

A summer garden clinic will be carried on in the counties during the last of June, during July and early August over 40 counties have asked for assistance in holding these clinics.

Iowa called an emergency food conference June 6 in Des Moines. Over 50 representatives of various organizations, agencies and concerns were present. They pledged full support to help intensify the garden and preservation program under way. Extension, at the request of conference members, published 50,000 copies of a four-page folder entitled "There's Still Time to Plant a Garden" and "Plan to Can More." The folder was shipped June 14 to all counties for immediate distribution to leaders in rural and urban areas. The program is being backed up strongly by the press and radio.

Growing weather as of this date is more favorable than earlier. Iowa is looking for a very good home garden and preservation program.

Kansas

We believe that it would be unwise for us to hold a State meeting for the Victory Garden phases, but feel assured that Kansas will produce adequate gardens and carry through with the conservation phases of the program. The season here is so delayed and so much activity in towns and on farms with regard to the harvesting of the 1945 wheat crop, we do not believe it desirable to call people from these activities for a State meeting. We are quite convinced that the responsibility that has been given for executing this program is being handled satisfactorily.

Michigan

The Victory Garden program in Michigan was organized and is carried on by the Michigan Office of Civilian Defense, with the Extension Service of Michigan State College and the Michigan State Department of Agriculture cooperating. All activities are coordinated with the programs of other Federal, State, County and local organizations concerned with home food production.

After carefully studying the results of a garden survey made in the fall of 1944, the State Committee at its meeting in December established a goal of one million better gardens in Michigan in 1945.

Local Victory garden chairmen reported on June 15 considerable discouragement because of unfavorable weather, a reduction in some places in the number of gardens because of this but expectation in most areas that improved weather would encourage later planting. Industrial plant gardens are reported somewhat decreased in some cities, others are about as last year, and community gardens in all cities reporting are filled.

The food preservation program in Michigan has been conducted under the guidance of a joint committee set up through the efforts of the Michigan OCD Nutrition Committee. A committee consisting of representatives from all State agencies and organizations interested in food preservation met in February to plan the allocation of responsibility in connection with the program. A goal of 250 million quarts of fruits and vegetables canned at home was established. This goal was based on an approximate 50 quarts per person in the State. The Nutrition Committee and Home Economics Extension Service, as well as the Farm Security Administration, and the public utility companies, etc., were assigned the educational program on canning, freezing, brining and drying, and the State Victory Garden Committee was assigned the home storage program.

Minnesota

The garden situation in cities, especially in the metropolitan areas of Minneapolis and St. Paul, is in a strong position. In both St. Paul and Minneapolis there are active civic committees at work. Both are planning contests and exhibits as well as working demonstrations to further the garden and foods program. Both lean heavily on Extension

Minnesota contd.

agents and the college for advice and literature. The June 5 report indicated that in the metropolitan areas there are as many urban gardens as in recent years and the gardens are better managed. Given comparable weather (which has not been the case so far) the gardens should yield more food and the people should be in a better position to take care of it.

It is the plan to continue the present coverage through the season to cover late season crops, food preservation and storage. It is the consensus of opinion here that given reasonably cooperative weather local food production and preservation will be up to par. At present the outlook is not particularly favorable because of the backward weather. However, the heavy purchases of plants, fertilizers and insecticides indicate that gardeners are not going to give up easily.

As the food picture grows more serious you can be assured that all possible channels will be used to encourage home food production in Minnesota. I believe I can say without hesitation that nearly all civic, commercial, and government groups are now looking to the Extension Service for leadership and information. It is our judgment that even in the present situation our most effective work can be done by encouraging and servicing the programs which are in progress rather than by launching new promotion. After all, both our garden leaders and gardeners are now veterans. We want to keep them on the job and help make them more effective, but it would be poor recognition of their past services to mobilize them all over again.

Missouri

Not more than 50 percent of the Victory Gardens of Missouri had been planted on June 11, 1945.

In the month of June fifteen conferences on fall gardens and raw food storage are being held by Extension Nutritionist Flora Carl and Extension Horticulturist Clyde R. Cunningham. These conferences will cover every county in the State. The first of these was held June 5, the day after the regional conference at Omaha. Presentation of the national food situation and plans for all agencies activities on a county-wide basis is included in the food storage and fall garden conferences as well as subject matter and method information. These meetings emphasize that vegetables are our only hope for immediately swelling the food stock since it is too late to expect much more of fruits and meats for this year. One encouraging note in Missouri is an expected doubling or better of the peach crop here. A series of conferences on early gardens and food preservation were held earlier as planned for in the February 2 meetings of the Missouri Victory Garden Council.

Nebraska

The outstanding work in the vegetable production phase has been the training of Nebraska war food assistants at three successive training meetings. In addition Mr. Hoppert, our extension horticulturist, has held 20 meetings to discuss vegetable garden production with 333 people.

The home food preservation phase of the program in Nebraska began with a statement of plans made by our extension nutritionist on April 10. The meetings of the personal of cooperating agencies were held in six places in the State and attended by 152 home economic specialists.

Here at Lincoln the garden prospects are better than they were last year at this time and we have every reason to believe that as much or more food will be produced in town gardens as in 1944. We feel that we are carrying on a fairly satisfactory educational program with the people who are interested in gardens and food preservation.

Ohio

The 1945 Victory Garden Program in Ohio has been built around the proposition that 1945 is the year when Victory Gardens will mean the most. Since the basis for this contention is primarily the prospect for a commercial processed food production, the greatest emphasis has been placed on the production of staple items of food for preservation.

As the season progresses and the outlook for commercial supplies becomes less favorable, added pressure has been applied to the "grow and can" phase of the program. Radio continuity and news articles have been used to emphasize this point.

For the balance of the 1945 season (June to October) the following elements of the program will receive special consideration:

1. Plant for preservation and for late harvest. The planting season extends to September and seedings should not be ended before that time.
2. Preservation is the most important work of the garden season. Growing only for current use on the table is not enough. We must eat next winter too.
3. Safe preservation by proper methods to protect the health of the consumer.
4. Emphasize the major crops which are basic to everyday living, such as beans, tomatoes, corn, and the root crops. Grow the novelties and other types if there is room and time after the basic ones are provided for.

Present indications are that there will be at least as many Victory Gardens in Ohio as in 1944. The citizens are generally quite aware of the commercial food situation, because of the great amount of publicity, the high point values and the bare grocery store shelves. We anticipate that more late and succession plantings for increased and continued garden production will be made than in any previous year.

South Dakota

Indications are South Dakota farm and town families will have as many gardens this year as last -- 64,000 on farms, approximately, 59,000 in towns, or about 91 per cent of farm families and over 60 per cent of families living in town are growing gardens this year. There is a 3 per cent reduction in town gardens but this is not due to a numerical decrease in town gardens but, since more families (soldiers' and sailors' wives establishing homes) have moved into towns and villages, the ratio of gardens to total town families has dropped approximately 3 per cent.

Wisconsin

The response on the part of the people of Wisconsin to garden in 1945 approximates the early season results of last year. There was less interest early in the season but the interest seems to be picking up as the need becomes more apparent.

Wisconsin has seven garden plans. One half million of these plans have been distributed throughout the State of Wisconsin. These plans have been made available to every county in Wisconsin and a majority of the counties have requested and received abundant supplies of these plans.

An apparent trend is that the individual gardens are larger than in former years.

Farm gardens are not much of a problem in Wisconsin because most Wisconsin families have been working on a constructive garden program for a number of years. Specialist O.B. Combs is in charge of the Farm Garden Program and has been promoting it with considerable success especially since the war. Wisconsin is a general farm State and there is usually a garden on every farm. Combs' effort has been in the direction of better planned gardens including a better variety of vegetables and use of a wheel hoe for convenience and labor saving. County agricultural agents and home agents have made farm gardens a major project and are continuing to do so this year. Many counties are still using neighborhood garden leaders and training is being given to these leaders.

The 4-H clubs are actively participating in the garden program.

In working throughout the State one gets the impression that in general the food production and preservation program will equal if not exceed the past year's program.

North Dakota

The status of the Victory Garden Program in North Dakota as of June 15, 1945 can be summarized as follows:

1. Garden seed sales are lagging slightly behind sales in 1944. Seedmen believe this is due in a small measure to a slight let-down on the part of the "in and out" type of gardener. Most of this reduction in seed movement, however, is due to the cold, wet season - a season which is still backward as this report is compiled.
2. There has been an unprecedented early movement of vegetable plants, many of them earlier than usual. Some concern was felt on this score because of several frost warnings from the weather bureau, but to date no general damage to garden plants from frost has been reported. One plant dealer reported planting 25 per cent more tomato plants in 1945 than he set in 1944 and his entire stock was practically gone June 1.
3. People are believed in general, however, to be more determined this year than ever before to carry their gardens through to completion. News and radio publicity warning of cuts to civilians in commercially canned vegetables and the increase of point values of certain commercially canned vegetables crops have had their effect.
4. Victory Garden information centers were established in some of the larger cities. In some cases, Emergency War Food Assistants of the Extension Service maintained an information desk. This service proved to be very popular and eliminated much confusion by directing all city garden questions to one central office. An active garden program has been carried on in all the larger cities and in many of the smaller villages and cities.
5. Prompt action has been taken by the North Dakota Victory Garden Committee, headed by Governor Fred G. Aandahl, to follow up the Emergency Home Food Supply meeting held at the Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, on June 5. Governor Aandahl called a meeting of key people June 12 and a plan was formulated whereby news and radio publicity will carry the critical need of Home Food Production to the families of North Dakota. Publicity is being handled by Mr. T. W. Gildersleeve, Editor, North Dakota Extension Service.
6. Shortly after July 4, a campaign with the theme, "Waste Not - Want Not" will be launched and several organizations which reach down to county and community levels will cooperate. Emphasis will be laid on the processing in some way of all surplus vegetables. It is also hoped that some sort of an exchange system can be set up on a city level whereby surplus vegetables may be exchanged.
7. All available time for the rest of the 1945 season will be devoted to the Home Fruit Planting Program now under way. This program is directed toward the establishment of small plantings of hardy fruits for home consumption only.

Arizona

In Southern Arizona we have just completed our winter and spring gardening season. We did not have as many gardens this year by about ten per cent as we did last year, but those who did grow gardens had larger and better gardens. More crops were grown that were liked and used by the families, the garden soil was in better condition for producing good crops, insect pests were controlled successfully as the gardeners gained experience in their work during the last three or four years. In northern Arizona our gardeners have started with their spring and early summer operations, and we estimate that we will have fully as many gardens in these areas as of last season.

In southern Arizona, where most of our farming population is located, our gardening program for the fall and winter months will begin about September 1. At present we are revising most of our mimeographed circulars, including new information and making them more attractive. We are now making plans for carrying on an extensive educational program, beginning the middle of July to the first of August, on the necessity for continuing our gardens during the coming season.

A continued effort has been made in Arizona to encourage families in preserving food. The southern counties started the campaign in April and May; the northern counties will begin the major emphasis in July. This year there have not been as many formal demonstrations on canning techniques. The approach has been more of a review of food preservation practices.

Freezing as a means of preservation is coming to the fore this year. The counties having freezer locker plants and home freezers are requesting demonstrations on preparing food for freezing storage. These demonstrations are beginning this month and will continue throughout the next year. The interest being shown in freezing as a means of food preservation is very genuine and spontaneous.

The home demonstration agents cooperate with the Department of Vocational Education by encouraging and helping in the use of the community canning centers. Extension Service is represented on the Food Conservation Committee of the State Nutrition Council. It is also assisting the National Red Cross in the selection and training of Red Cross food preservation instructors.

There has been an increase in butter and cheese making, and in the preservation of eggs throughout the State. Estimates on canning are difficult to make; however, it is indicated there has been a

Arizona contd.

falling off from the record year of 1943. Dehydrating is a method still used and liked by some people in our State and, as indicated before, there will probably be an increase in preservation by freezing this year.

California

A greatly accelerated campaign to increase home food production to combat shortages during the remainder of 1945 has been launched by the Agricultural Extension Service, University of California.

At the present time, without information from water companies or seed companies, it would appear that the number of gardens throughout the State will be between 700,000 and 800,000. This is about ten per cent under 1944 and 30 per cent under 1943.

Colorado

Nine percent more gardens in 1945. This is a goal the State Victory Garden Committee established in December of 1944. The State Victory Garden Committee feels that the goal will be reached, but not without continued hard work and considerable disappointment.

Early in the spring, Colorado Victory gardeners made plans for more, larger, and better gardens. A long, cold, and wet spring followed. Early crops - such as spinach, lettuce, onions, and radishes - were in abundant supply by June 1; in many gardens peas were filling. During the last of May and first two weeks of June, devastating hails occurred in many areas, particularly in areas where there were many Victory Gardens - northern Colorado, (Fort Collins, Greeley and parts of Denver) South Central Colorado (Pueblo and Colorado Springs), and spotted sections in the Arkansas Valley.

Gardening enthusiasm declined somewhat, but warmer weather coming in the second week of June has gardeners back at work. The following incident is expressive of the attitude taken by the majority of Colorado Victory gardeners. A devastating hail hit Fort Collins Victory Gardens at 3.15 p.m. on June 8. On June 9 the specialist visited a transplant supply in a neighboring town 14 miles away. The management reported that they were completely sold out of plants by evening on June 8; that immediately following the hail, many Fort Collins gardeners drove to Loveland to purchase plants for replanting.

The 1945 Victory Garden Program in Colorado was developed by county and State extension workers, Planning Committees, and in cooperation with the State Victory Garden Committee. Represented on the State Victory Garden Committee are the Colorado Council of Defense; the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc; Seed Trade Association; Western Colorado Horticulture Society; HomeGarden Club of Denver; Colorado Home Denver Club Council; Denver Public Schools; Chairman of the Denver and Colorado Springs Victory Garden Committee; Department of Horticulture, Colorado A & M College, and the State Extension Service. Charles M. Drage, Extension Horticulturist and State Victory Garden Leader, is chairman of the State Committee.

continued

Montana contd.

A training school was held for emergency food agents, to discuss storage construction and methods of storing vegetables. He has met with the garden clubs, service clubs and other agencies, to explain the garden program.

He has cooperated with such agencies as railroad companies in planning garden programs for their organizations.

The food and nutrition specialist began laying plans for the 1945 food preservation program at the annual extension conference in January. At that time she met with the home demonstration agents and reviewed with them the various phases of the preservation program as it has been conducted in their counties during the past several years. She discussed with them the needs and objectives for the coming year and the type of assistance they would need and might expect to receive from the State office. She has had individual conferences with the agents as she has visited their counties during the spring.

Nevada

Despite very unfavorable weather, together with a shortage of help of all kinds, Nevada victory gardeners, both in the country and in town, are continuing to do their part in the war effort this year.

A survey of the State just completed by the University of Nevada agricultural extension service shows that victory gardeners are about as active as last year, and if the weather is favorable should produce another abundant crop of much needed food.

There seems to be an increased interest in canning according to observations of extension workers. A report from Douglas and Lyon Counties indicates a 10 per cent increase in number of women canning. Rural homemakers in Washoe County will probably can on about the same level as last year, with an increase in canning by urban families. In Churchill County there will be a slight increase. Emergency assistants report greater interest than ever before in the areas they serve.

Freezing is being stressed in Washoe and Churchill Counties as there are locker plants in operation in Reno and Fallon.

Dehydrating of foods has not been too popular in Nevada but an effort will be made again this year to interest more people in the drying of fruits, particularly to avoid any loss due to lack of sugar for canning. Electric dehydrators have been ordered for all home demonstration agents and emergency assistants for demonstration purposes and for loan to homemakers who wish to use them.

There will probably be more curing of pork next fall. Those who cured meat at home last year are so satisfied with the results that they plan to do more next season. Considerable interest is also being shown in home cheese making.

Colorado contd.

It is the feeling in Colorado that a successful Victory Garden Program is dependent (1) upon adequate and continued publicity, starting with the need for gardens and ending when the food has been produced and utilized, or preserved by canning, freezing, or storing; (2) education on how to have better gardens and to conserve greater amounts of food; (3) organization to the extent that all Victory Garden Organizations would be continued in 1945; and where reorganization or new organization was necessary, that this would be accomplished.

At the present time Colorado Extension specialists are actively encouraging the planting of a late garden for canning and storage. They are keeping gardeners posted on insect and disease outbreaks, and providing them with control recommendations. Because of the scarcity of many well-known and often used spray and dust materials and because of the many new ones appearing on the market, it is very important that gardeners be informed on available and effective control recommendations. Starting in August, leader training meetings on live vegetable storage will be conducted by the extension horticulturist in those counties in Colorado that were not reached in 1944.

Idaho

It is safe to say that there is an increase at least in numbers of gardens again for 1945, although the labor situation on farms is more discouraging than the previous war years. We have stressed the point of planning the farm garden so as to avoid as much hand labor as possible as the amount of land taken up by the garden is of but little concern. The town and city garden presents a somewhat different problem. Inasmuch as Idaho has no large cities, the home grounds or vacant lots in all but two urban centers provide space for most gardens. In most cities, however, the town gardens are more restricted in area than those in the country and require more hand labor in the way of preparing the soil and caring for the crops.

It is now too early to make a statement as to the number or efficiency of Idaho's 1945 Victory Gardens. We believe it is safe to say that although weather conditions up till this time, have not been favorable, there will be as many gardens as two years ago and that most families in the rural districts and smaller towns will be self-sufficient in the way of fresh summer vegetables, vegetables for preservation by canning, freezing and dehydrating, and many will have a sufficient supply of late grown vegetables for winter storage.

Montana

The specialist in horticulture explained plans for the 1945 Victory Garden program at the annual extension conference. He met with both the agricultural agents and home demonstration agents to review with them information on national food reserves. He discussed the need for increased garden production, with particular emphasis being placed on the need for increasing the number and size of urban gardens in the State.

continued

New Mexico

The New Mexico Extension Service is proud of the fact that it has had a part in assisting farmers and ranchers of the State in meeting their production problems. Here are some of the problems which Extension helped to meet. There was the matter of livestock feeding - a problem that was complicated by a shortage of protein supplements and short grain crops in 1943. 1820 owners of dairy cattle were assisted by county agents in using improved feeding methods. Similar assistance was given 907 beef producers, 405 sheepmen and 988 pork producers. Poultrymen had their feeding problems, too, as indicated by the fact that over three thousand poultry flock owners were given help. Parasite and disease control assistance was given in 863 dairy herds, 2,470 herds of beef cattle, 21,167 flocks of sheep, 1,319 herds of swine and 5,493 flocks of poultry.

Over in the field of crop production there have been production problems, too. There's the matter of seed - 7,000 farmers were helped to locate improved varieties or strains, and when noxious weeds tried to become Axis agents and interfere with successful crop production, control measures were put into operation on more than 1,500 farms.

On small plots of ground, on vacant town lots or out in the backyard, New Mexico folks put in plenty of extra licks. In addition to providing plenty of fresh vegetables, almost 4,000,000 quarts of vegetables were canned, and right along side of them on cellar and pantry shelves were 4 1/2 million quarts of canned fruits.

Oregon

It is estimated that the number of gardens planted in cities and towns and on farms in Oregon in 1945 is essentially the same as were planted in 1944 in spite of the fact that the season has been very much delayed by cold and wet weather in the spring of 1945. We estimate that there will be close to 55,000 farm gardens and 120,000 city and town gardens again in 1945. Attendance and interest at Victory garden meetings has been slightly less during the 1945 season, but it is believed that those who have gardened in the past have learned much and have not found it necessary to participate in garden meetings as they did in the early stages of our victory garden movement.

At the county program planning days in May, every county showed keen interest in the food for victory program and scheduled meetings not only in all phases of home food preservation, but in control of pests and vegetable gardening.

The outlook is for a better year in vegetable canning, compared with 1944. 1943 was the banner and 1945 may approach its results.

The outlook with respect to fruit canning and processing of fruit by freezing is not so favorable because of the limited supply of sugar. To counteract this, however, there is a state-wide campaign emphasizing use of fruit with maximum ripeness and use of minimum amounts of sugar to obtain a palatable product. In addition to this, we are encouraging the drying of fully ripe fruit as a means to preserve fruit without the use of sugar.

Utah

Miss Rhea Hurst, Emergency War Food Preservation Supervisor, has prepared six circulars on food preservation, copies of which are enclosed. These have been prepared in sufficient numbers to supply one to each interested person.

The extension agents have called on seed and supply houses in their respective counties to advise with the dealers regarding varieties of garden seeds best adapted to their particular localities. They have also checked to make sure that insecticides are on hand. In all of their meetings through churches, civic clubs, newspaper, radio, they have promoted the idea of victory gardens for this year.

As typical of work being done in the urban areas, Weber County Agent has attended three meetings of a group of 55 who have a community garden at Roy Villa adjacent to Hill Field near Ogden. Of these 55 only five have had previous experience in gardening. To date the agent has given this group one demonstration on planting a garden. Other demonstrations will follow.

In Salt Lake City an active garden committee is functioning. Extension Agents cooperated very closely with this committee. The goal is to have 10,000 gardens this year. A member of this committee happened to be connected with Station KSL. He has taken frequent opportunity on a fifteen minute agricultural program Monday through Friday at 12:30 p.m. to promote gardens. A department store in Salt Lake City inserted a full page ad in the Salt Lake Tribune in the interest of victory gardens, referring people to the extension office for assistance. The school principals of Salt Lake City have been very cooperative in distributing the literature prepared by Dr. Stark.

Washington

There seems to be a difference of opinion as to the number of gardens in the State. Some seed dealers have estimated that there are 75 to 80 per cent of last year's number. This is based largely on seed sales. County agents with whom I have talked recently have indicated that farm gardens will be nearly as numerous, if not as numerous as they were last year. Our spring has been late and cold. Plantings, particularly in western Washington, were delayed because folks just could not work the ground. This will mean some failures in early crops, such as spinach, lettuce, and peas; and will probably also mean that crops which ordinarily follow these as summer plantings will be delayed.

We have not had a Victory Garden campaign that has been distinct and separate from our general Extension work. Rather we have tried to keep the agents well informed on the need, and have furnished information and material for them and have kept material going out to radio stations and newspapers.

From January to March 1945 a group of exhibits with the theme "Guides to Successful Farming" was routed through the various counties in the State of Washington. The total attendance was approximately 41,000. The food preservation exhibit had a carnival motif. On a gaily colored, moving and well lighted merry-go-round were samples of good canned food and spoiled and discolored canned food found in the local county. On the ferris wheel were samples of good freezer locker

Washington contd.

containers and paper. Previous to the exhibits, leaders were trained by the specialists or the local agent to stand by the exhibit on the Demonstration Day and explain it to those attending.

The Extension Service solicited the cooperation of the Fish and Wildlife Service in Seattle to train our agents on the handling, cooking and preservation of fish. In addition to Extension agents, we invited a limited number of newspaper home economists and representatives of utility companies. The agents will in turn conduct leader training meetings in their counties.

Leader training meetings are being held in several counties to train food preservation captains from different communities within the county. The thought is that we will have a leader trained in every community to answer questions on canning, freezing, drying, brining and storage.

Wyoming

Estimates as to total number of gardens in 1945:

Farm Gardens 12,545 Town Gardens 16,700 Community Gardens 16 with
520 families participating
This total for gardens in 1945 - 29,765 - exceeds the 1944 total of 28,881.

The cold late spring has held gardens back very materially in Wyoming. On June 15 Albany County and many other counties with altitudes above 6,000 feet were visited with snow and freezing temperatures, thus requiring replanting of beans, beets, tomatoes, etc. Records are already in of numerous gardens having been replanted during the past month because of cold soil, rotting seed and rainy, cold weather. There will be much canning, storing, and freezing of produce this year.

Alaska

It was decided at annual conference that Alaska can best contribute to the war effort by providing food for home use and supply as much as possible of the more than million dollar civilian grocery order and the military orders of which are of undisclosed value, shipped in from the States. Practically all activities of the Extension Service influence directly or indirectly the food production and conservation program.

Old time and native Alaskans are not primarily interested in food production or conservation and in many localities gardening and canning are not considered profitable. However, in every locality there is an abundance of some type of food and interest in gardening has increased as settlers become permanent residents owning their homes, and natives acquire a liking for garden crops.

The entire staff of workers continually stress the need of greater food production, pointing at the superior flavor of home-grown

Alaska contd.

products, the financial saving, the improvement in health, the contribution to the war effort, and the educational value to children of learning to garden and the advantages to all of developing permanent industries in the Territory.

Hawaii

We have an extensive home food production project in the Territory of Hawaii as a part of the regular and emergency Extension programs. The home food production program of the Extension Service has been carried regularly in both rural and urban communities as an activity of all regular Extension agents. In addition the Emergency War Food Production and Conservation funds have been used exclusively for home food production and conservation activities and have greatly augmented this type of work. Our home food production program includes poultry, swine, rabbits, and fruit, as well as home gardens.

Publications

GARDEN INSECTS & DISEASES

Extension Leaflet 73

INSECTS and diseases often cause injury to the home vegetable garden. Most of these losses may be greatly reduced.

Circular 254

(Revised March, 1933)

March 1933

Home Vegetable Gardens



Plant a Garden

GROWING FOR HOME

We invite you to hear

130

May 1945

THE MICHIGAN VICTORY GARDEN HOUR

Substitutes

p bees in distress strong colonies earlier

The VEGETABLE GARDEN

A Suggest

GROWING Raspberries

Tomato Growing

Potato Growing in Illinois

INSECT GARDEN

STRAWBERRIES

1945

STRAWBERRIES

Some Do's and Dont's for the Home Gardener

Lengthening the GARDEN SEASON

BULLETIN 645 (New Series)

Circular 58

The NORTH DAKOTA FARM VEGETABLE GARDEN

by A. F. YEAGER

Revised July

GROWING Strawberries



CONTROL VICTORY GARDEN PESTS

LEAFLET 228 (Rev.) JANUARY, 1944
Purdue University
Department of Agricultural Extension
Lafayette, Indiana



THE HOME VEGETABLE GARDEN

Vegetables are an important part in the American way of life. It has become important not only from the standpoint of providing more food and vitamins, but also because of the healthful nature of vegetables. It is never more tempting to eat when you are tired than when you are hungry. How to provide the vegetables the family most prefers to eat is the purpose of this bulletin.

Vegetable	When to Plant	When to Harvest
Asparagus	Early	Mid-June
Beans	Early	Mid-July
Broccoli	Early	Mid-July
Cauliflower	Early	Mid-July
Corn	Early	Mid-July
Cucumbers	Early	Mid-July
Eggplant	Early	Mid-July
Kale	Early	Mid-July
Kidney Beans	Early	Mid-July
Lettuces	Early	Mid-July
Onions	Early	Mid-July
Potatoes	Early	Mid-July
Peas	Early	Mid-July
Peppers	Early	Mid-July
Pumpkins	Early	Mid-July
Spinach	Early	Mid-July
Squash	Early	Mid-July
Tomatoes	Early	Mid-July
Turnips	Early	Mid-July
Watermelons	Early	Mid-July

Prepared by FRANK L. ROCKWELL
State College Extension Horticulturist

What is a Frame Garden?

It is a garden enclosed in a wooden frame, 3 feet high on the north, 18 inches on the south. The length is 12 to 30 feet; the width, 8 to 12. It is covered with muslin to protect it from insects and the hot sun. It is irrigated by homemade underground tile. By successive plantings this small garden will produce a surprising amount of vegetables even in unfavorable years.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE COLLEGE, BROOKINGS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Ext. Leaflet 58

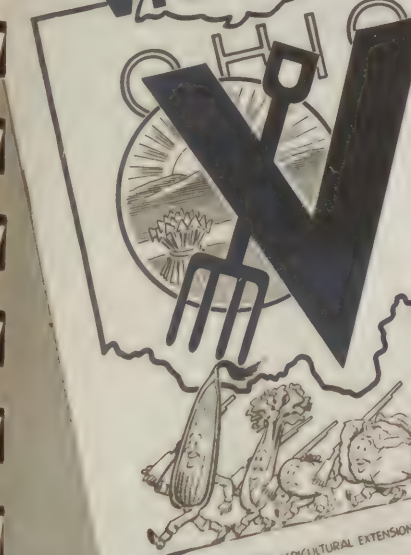
Revised February, 1943

Controlling HOME ORCHARD PESTS....

The Potato Leafhopper and Its Control



GARDEN for VICTORY



BULLETIN 232 OF THE AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE, OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

TOMATO LEAF SPOT DISEASES

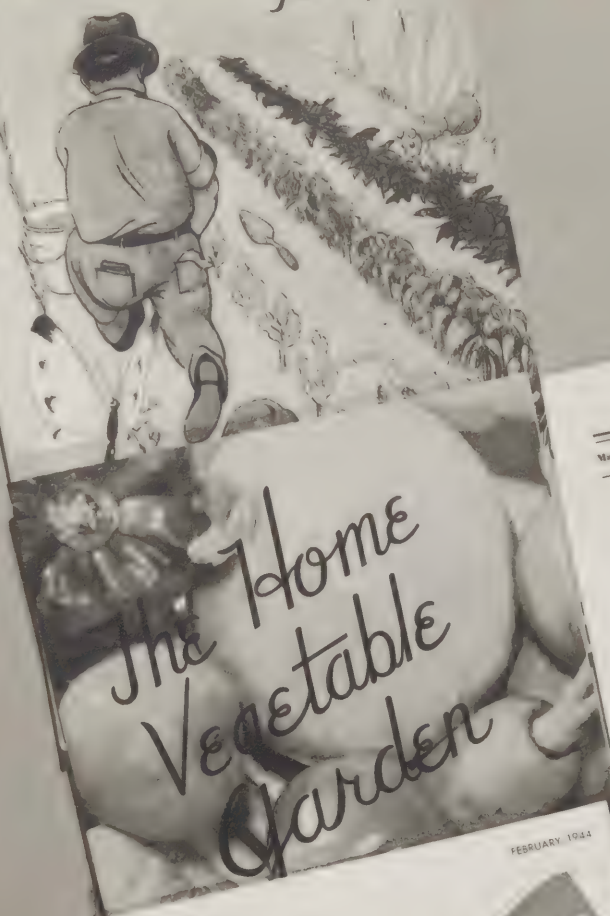


AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE, OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Midwest States

Who are you for?

Publications



Planting Guide for the Home Vegetable Garden

by
ROGER CLAPP, Extension Vegetable Specialist

Bulletin No. 102

DESTRUCTIVE INSECTS IN VEGETABLE CROPS

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
BULLETIN
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

Play Safe
With Food
in
1945

Plant
Victory Gardens

The demand for food in 1945 will be greater than ever. Victory Gardens will help the American farmer insure a supply of food adequate for every need, at home and on the

BULLETIN No. 101



FISHY INSECTS AND DISEASES IN VICTORY GARDENS

Victory GARDENS

THE HOME VEGETABLE GARDEN

VEGETABLE GARDENING FOR VICTORY

A HOME GARDEN FOR VEGETABLES VITAMINS VICTORY

Treating VEGETABLE SEED TO PREVENT DISEASES

The MONROE COUNTY Victory GARDEN

COMPILED AND DISTRIBUTED
BY
VICTORY GARDEN COUNCIL
OF
ROCHESTER AND

PROTECT

ROOM 402



Cabbage, Cauliflower, Sprouting Broccoli, and Brussels Sprouts

THE SOIL PREPARATION, fertilizer requirements, and cultural practices for these four types of vegetables, commonly known as Cole crops, are essentially the same. Therefore, they can very conveniently be considered together.

VARIETIES

The leading varieties of these vegetables grown in Pennsylvania for home use are for market and for home use. Cabbage: Golden Acre, early; Red Drumhead, midseason; and Red Ballhead, late. Cauliflower: Early, late, and midseason. Sprouting Broccoli: Early, late, and midseason. Brussels Sprouts: Early, late, and midseason.

GROWING EARLY PLANTS

These crops can be grown in the open field or in a cold frame. The early plants should be started in the open field in the first week of March. The midseason plants should be started in the open field in the second week of March. The late plants should be started in the open field in the third week of March.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE BULLETIN RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

MANUAL FOR NEW JERSEY HOME VEGETABLE GARDENERS

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT
STATION
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

New Brunswick, N. J.
February, 1945

Your Victory Garden

By Charles H. Bussard, Extension Horticulturist

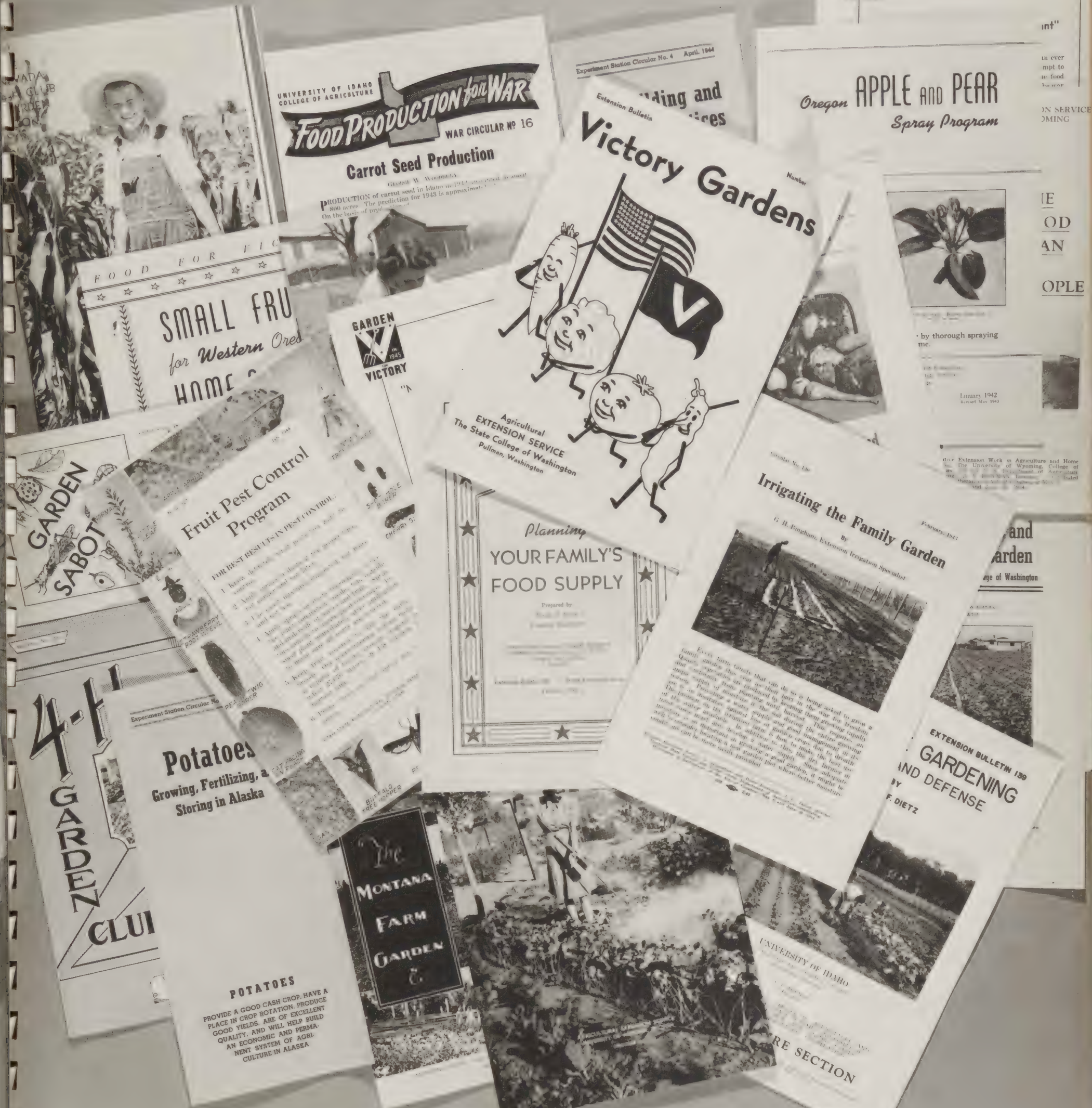


Vermont
Vegetables
Quality
Victory

Agricultural Extension
Service
University of Vermont
and
State Agricultural College
Burlington Vermont
Bulletin No. 666 Revised March, 1945

Eastern States

Publications



Western States

Publications



Southern States

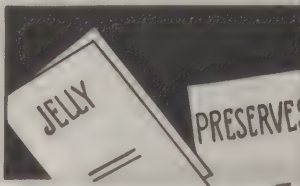
On Canning

CIRCULAR NO. 433

COOKING AND CANNING
WITH LESS SUGAR

The 4-H Club Member
Learns

JULY 1943 (REVISED AND REPRINTED) EXTENSION CIRCULAR 406



LA CONSERVACION DE
CARNES EN EL HOGAR

METHODS OF
Preserving Tomatoes

By BLANCHE RANDOLPH

Circular No. 395

1944

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI COLLEGE OF
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

CIRCULAR 406 Columbia, Missouri
(Revised July, 1943)

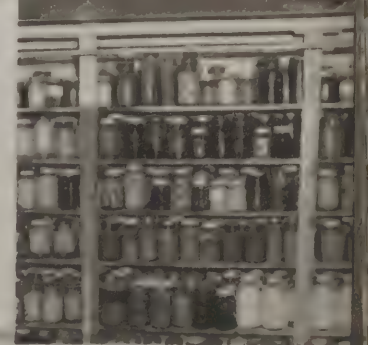
Home Canning
of
Vegetables

Canning Meats, Fish, and
Flora L. Carl and Letha O. Kinkaid

Home produced foods are the least expensive foods
Missouri farm family. An important step in providing
a well-balanced diet for the family is the canning of home produced meats.
Different home produced meats can be canned in different ways.

HOME CANNING
for
Better Family Meals

Extension Bulletin 284
(Rev.)
April, 1941



Bulletin 583
Canning at Home
Marion C. Pfund



Every jar of garden-fresh fruits or vegetables you put up
at home this year will do double duty. It will help your
family to keep well fed next winter. And it will help the
Nation by easing the load on transportation and com-
mercial food supplies.
Your Goal: To fill jars with food value and flavor, and keep
it safe and sound.

RIGHT METHOD FOR EACH FOOD

For fruits and tomatoes use a boiling water
bath. These foods may be processed satisfactorily
in water at boiling point (212°F). Do not
fill bacteria that would cause food to spoil.

For corn, peas, beans, and other common
vegetables (except tomatoes), use a steam pres-
sure canner. To process these foods safely in
reasonable time takes heat of at least 240°F.
Boiling steam under pressure can you
reach high temperatures needed for this job.

A limited number of pressure canners—the
size to process seven quart jars at one time are
available now—unrationed.

There are not nearly enough steam pressure
canners to go around. But if individuals and
groups owning canners share them and keep
them working at capacity, steam pressure can-
ners will preserve millions of jars of food.

If you have no steam pressure canner, team
with someone who has the use of a canner.
Food preservation centers, too, if you would
make extra good use of your canner, purchase one
from your local dealer for your personal use.

If you cannot have the use of a pressure
canner, consider other ways to preserve some
full grown lima beans. Brining, water-bath
canning, and quick freezing are good methods.
Quick freezing is best. Pickling green
beans, pumpkins, etc., are also good. Storing
vegetables in oil, vinegar, or salt

CANNING ARITHMETIC

The table below gives some idea of the
amount of fruits or vegetables you bought or
picked that canning takes. Weight per bushel
may vary.

Apples	1 bu. 56 lb.	cans 17-20 qt.
Beans, lima	1 bu. 56 lb.	cans 17-20 qt.
Beans, snap	1 bu. 56 lb.	cans 17-20 qt.
Beans, navy	1 bu. 56 lb.	cans 17-20 qt.
Carrots	1 bu. 56 lb.	cans 17-20 qt.
Chickpeas	1 bu. 56 lb.	cans 17-20 qt.
Corn	1 bu. 56 lb.	cans 17-20 qt.
Green peas	1 bu. 56 lb.	cans 17-20 qt.
Green beans	1 bu. 56 lb.	cans 17-20 qt.
Peas	1 bu. 56 lb.	cans 17-20 qt.
Pumpkins	1 bu. 56 lb.	cans 17-20 qt.
Tomatoes	1 bu. 56 lb.	cans 17-20 qt.

On Guard Against Spoilage

Read signs before opening a jar, inspect
contents. There may be signs of spoilage. When
you open a jar, look for other signs—
cloudy liquid, an off odor.

Even peas snap beans and tomatoes are
properly sealed after processing, when not
in the water-bath place jars of food may spoil.

Safety first. Never taste any canned food
you suspect. Discard it.

Spillage. Refuse using the jars and caps for
any purpose; clean them well and soak or
boil them in hot soapy water.

Bulletin 523 (Reprinted June 1943) W.E. 37 June 1942

WAR EMERGENCY BULLETIN

Safe Use and Care of a
Pressure Cooker

Elaine Knowles and Gertrude Henry



CIRCULAR 178

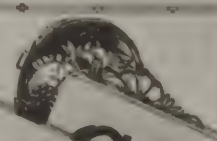
May, 1944

Vegetable Preservation Handbook
For Wartime Use

JESSIE E. RICHARDSON

HELEN L. MAYFIELD

DEPARTMENT OF HOME ECONOMICS



HOME CANNING
of
VEGETABLES-FRUIT
and
MEATS

MOSCOW, MARCH, 1939 EXTENSION BULLETIN NO.

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
EXTENSION DIVISION
E. J. HEDGECOCK
DIRECTOR

First Year Canning

By
MARION HEPPWORTH
AND
W. V. HALVERSEN

Storage of
Home Canned
Foods

HOME CANNING FOR
VEGETABLES
VITALITY
VICTORY

Canned Spinach
and Its Use

HOME CANNING
of MEATS



Home
Canning
Guide

CANNING FRUITS
IN HOT-WATER BATH
With Little or
No Sugar

THE SMALL AMOUNT OF SUGAR custom-
arily used in canning fruits does not keep them
from spoiling but it does improve their flavor.

CAN
Fruits and Vegetables
for VICTORY!

THE REPAIR, CARE
AND OPERATION OF
PRESSURE COOKERS

Can
FRUITS &
VEGETABLES
for Victory

Guarde Su Comida
Metodo Correcto

PRODUCE
FOOD for VICTORY
IN 1943
EXTENSION SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
COOPERATING

Leaflet 59

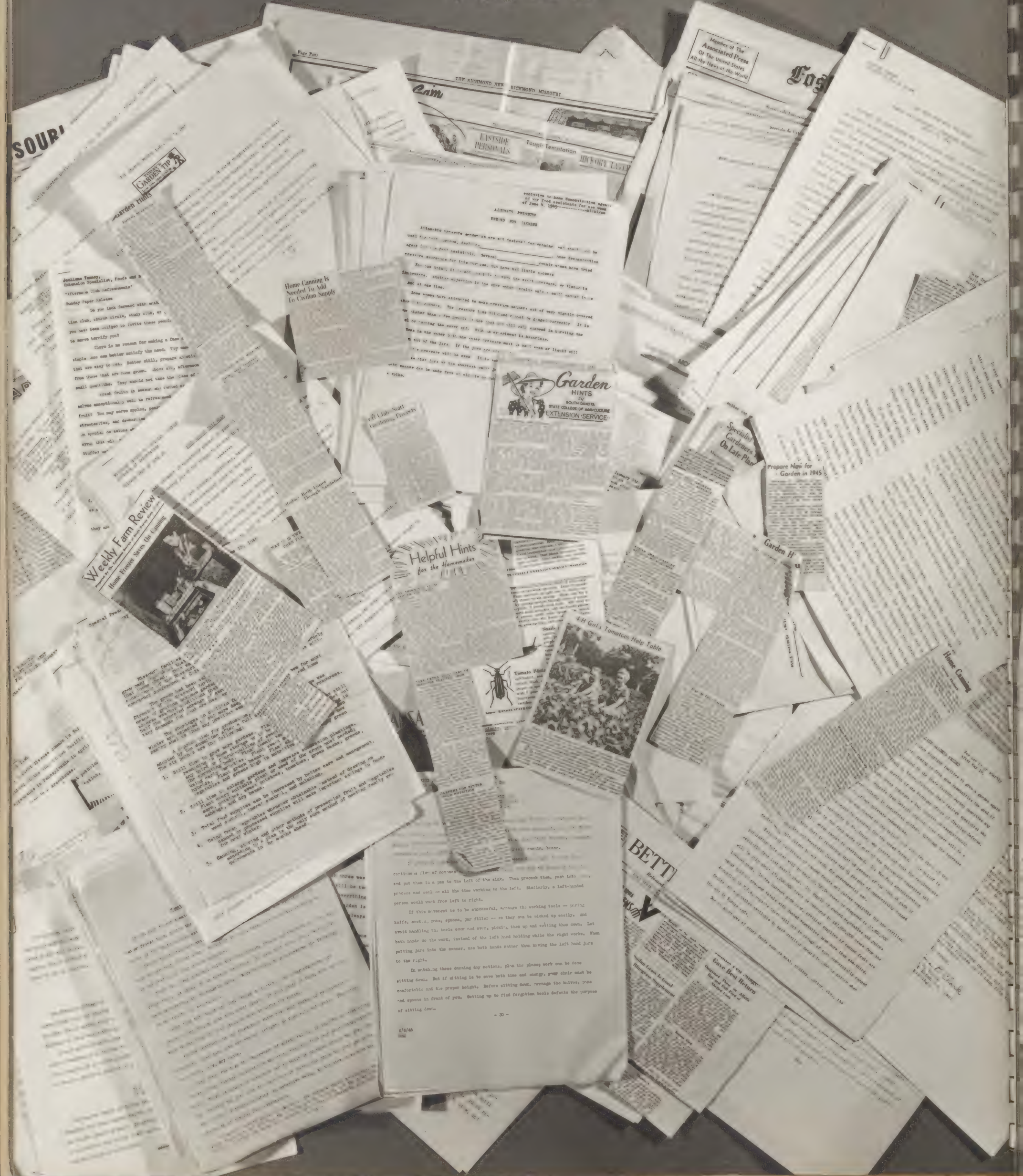
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
College of Agriculture and Home Economics
Agricultural Extension Service
Thomas P. Cooper, Dean and Director
Lexington, Kentucky

Leaflet 17

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
College of Agriculture and Home Economics
Agricultural Extension Service
Thomas P. Cooper, Dean and Director
Lexington, Kentucky

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
State of Oklahoma
OKLAHOMA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
OKLAHOMA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL
COLLEGE AND UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE COOPERATING

News



[illegible][illegible][illegible]

THE NEW YORK STATE
EVERYDAY LIVING

Radio

TOMATOES ARE A "MUST"

There's one plant that's wanted to raise tomatoes. Ripe of color and food value to our meals the amateur gardener, because the

Tomato plants require rain and drainage, in a sunny place given any luck at all as for a wet crop. Of course tomato weather — and there are a few out for — but by and large plant both early and late over a long season.

Maybe it's time, in your whomever you plan to buy your draw that plan of your garden to grow enough of them to use for chili sauce and ketchup the smart way to take care

Radio Station _____
West Virginia University,
Farm Practices.

Today we learn why but
There's also an announcement
relating to egg bags.

**NEWER GARDENS, BETTER
NUTRITION FOR CHILDREN**
(5 minutes)

reached by exhibition alone
years of study of the nation
The scientists suggest that
gardens and how food for
the family costs. Because
how than to buy it, and
serving products, families
preventing loss of their

Not the University
afford to buy all the
she could afford it, and
many family diets and
and health examinations

The nutrition of
rural areas, and these
studies showed that
vitamin C - at least
of the children had
important foods for



GROW YOUR OWN
Be sure!



MISSISSIPPI EXTENSION SERVICE

Insects WANT A SHARE



STOP THEM NOW

R.I. COUNCIL OF WAR AGENCIES

SAVE SOMETHING EAT

 ATTEND
Canning School

DATE _____ TIME _____
 PLACE _____ SPECIALIST _____

For Further Information See Your County or Home Department
 Georgia Agricultural Extension Service
 Athens, Georgia

YOUR VICTORY GARDEN



WAR FOR VICTORY
 MICHIGAN STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 EXTENSION SERVICE OFFICE

PRESERVE YOUR FOOD



for information... see your
FOOD PRESERVATION CONSULTANT

NEW YORK STATE EMERGENCY FOOD COMMISSION
 AND COLLEGES OF AGRICULTURE and HOME ECONOMICS

START YOUR



VICTORY GARDEN NOW!

Ellen Miller
 WEST TAGHKANIC SCHOOL

CAN N
ASK H
 ROCHESTER and
 COUNTY WAR C

NUTRITION committee
CANNING information
CENTER



DAILY 10 to 5 7 to 9
89 EAST AVENUE
 ROCHESTER GAS and ELECTRIC BLDG.
 MAIN 7070
 VICTORY GARDEN COUNCIL

WAR FOR VICTORY



NO TR
 THIS IS
 VICTORY G
 BY LAW
 VICTORY G
 ROCHESTER

Posters

